

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM

TOM DAVIS, CHAIRMAN



NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Robert White / Andrea LeBlanc
(202) 225-5074

Davis Statement on the Supreme Court Decision on Texas Redistricting Case

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Chairman Tom Davis (R-VA) issued the following statement today regarding the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in *League of United Latin American Citizens et al. v. Rick Perry, Governor of Texas, et al.* The Court upheld large portions of the controversial, mid-decade Texas redistricting map – which replaced a court-drawn map that favored Democrat incumbents.

“While I am still studying this complex decision, my initial reaction is that the Supreme Court got it right. The Court’s decision states, ‘With respect to a mid-decade redistricting to change districts drawn earlier in conformance with a decennial census, the Constitution and Congress state no explicit prohibition.’

“I’m gratified that the Court also recognizes that the legislative branch plays a primary role in establishing redistricting law.

“While I agree with the Court’s opinion that this kind of mid-decade redistricting can be done, that doesn’t mean it is a good idea. Voters want to have a relationship with their members of Congress. That cannot happen if districts are just amalgamations of political groups, and it cannot happen if the districts change every few years.

“We’ve let the courts speak on these issues long enough. It may be time for Congress to return to these issues and see if we can make some clear rules that everyone can abide by.”

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